

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LILONG 00788 261310Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 HA-05 IO-13 INR-10 EUR-12 NSC-05 CIAE-00

ISO-00 SS-15 /071 W

-----125226 261350Z /45S

P 261208Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1925

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L LILONGWE 0788

E.O. 11652: XGDS

TAGS: RH, UK, SREF

SUBJECT: AID TO ZIMBABWEAN REFUGEES.

REF: LILONGWE 784

1. BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER SCOTT INFORMED ME
5/26 THAT FCO TAKING FIRM POSITION AGAINST BILATERAL
UK AID TO ZIMBABWEAN REFUGEES, URGING THAT RHODESIAN
OFFICIALS SEEK ASSISTANCE FROM UNHCR. MATTER OF COURSE
CONCERNS REFUGEES IN MALAWI WHO CAME AND PRESUMABLY
WILL CONTINUE TO COME FROM MOZAMBIQUE, AS WELL AS THOSE
WHO MAY GO DIRECTLY FROM MOZAMBIQUE BACK TO RHODESIA.

2. SCOTT PROVIDED BACKGROUND ON HOW UNHCR IS VIEWED
NEGATIVELY BY MALAWI PRESIDENT BANDA AS WELL AS
SITHOLE AND MUZOREWA. FIRST, MALAWI ITSELF WAS ABLE
TO HANDLE REFUGEES UP TO NOW IN VIEW OF SMALL NUMBERS.
WITH NUMBERS INCREASING, HOWEVER, MALAWI WILL
NEED EXTERNAL ASSISTANCE. SECOND, BANDA, SITHOLE AND
MUZOREWA CONSIDER UNHCR OPERATION IN ZAMBIA TO BE PRO-
PF, BASED ON REPORTS THAT PRO-SITHOLE AND PRO MUZOREWA
REFUGEES HAVE BEEN BADLY TREATED BY UNHCR. THIRD, BANDA
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LILONG 00788 261310Z

IS PARTICULARLY PEEVED BECAUSE HIS NICE AND HUSBAND,
WHO LEFT MALAWI FOR ZAMBIA BELIEVING THEY WERE UNDER
SOME SUSPICION, WERE DECLARED BY UNHCR IN LUSAKA
TO BE POLITICAL REFUGEES.

3. ALTHOUGH UNHCR WOULD BE MOST SUITABLE CHANNEL FOR
AIDING REFUGEES, SCOTT IS NOT CERTAIN THAT DR. OWEN,

DESPITE SCOTT'S URGINGS, WILL SEEK BANDA'S CONCURRENCE
TO PROPOSE OPENING OF UNHCR OPERATION IN MALAWI.
ALTERNATIVELY, SCOTT IS THINKING OF QUIET SUPPORT TO
CHRISTIAN SERVICE COMMITTEE (CSC) OF MALAWI WHICH
HAS IN RECENT PAST PROVIDED SMALL AMOUNTS OF FUNDS
NEEDED FOR REFUGEES. CSC WOULD NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT
FUNDS FOR A LARGER OPERATION BUT COULD CONCEIVABLY
SERVE AS CHANNEL FOR SUCH FUNDS. APPARENTLY NEITHER
SCOTT NOR FCO WISH TO SEE UK PROVIDE FUNDS ON BILATERAL

BASIS BECAUSE OF HEADACHE OF SORTING OUT REFUGEES.

4. SITHOLE REPORTEDLY TOLD UK REP IN BLANTYRE THAT
HE ANTICIPATES ABOUT 6,000 REFUGEES LEAVING
MOZAMBIQUE SHORTLY, ABOUT 1,000 OF WHOM WOULD BE
COMING TO MALAWI BECAUSE OF EASY ACCESS AND PROXIMITY
OF THEIR CAMPS TO MALAWI.

5. SCOTT SAID DR. OWEN WOULD BE SEEING SITHOLE
DURING LATTER'S MAY 26-27 VISIT TO LONDON BUT DID NOT
KNOW SITHOLE'S ONWARD PLANS.

SHEINBAUM

NOTE BY OC/T: DISTRIBUTION COORDINATED WITH MR, SUMMERS S/S-O.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEE RELIEF, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LILONG00788
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: DOWNGRADE PER 78 LILONGWE 951
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780222-1263
Format: TEL
From: LILONGWE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780515/aaaaameb.tel
Line Count: 85
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f4e2b695-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 LILONGWE 784
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2553078
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AID TO ZIMBABWEAN REFUGEES.
TAGS: SREF, RH, UK, MI, UNHCR, (BANDA, H KAMUZU)
To: STATE LONDON
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f4e2b695-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014